

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for verifying an integrated circuit design, comprising:

defining tasks, the tasks being formatted as .txt files;

identifying a test case, the test case being defined by the tasks;

correlating each of the tasks with a compiled task formatted in a hardware description language.

executing the compiled task to simulate a behavior for the integrated circuit design, the executing occurring on a simulation server maintained in an initialized state to immediately execute the compiled task and which publishes results to determine if a goal has been achieved, wherein a chip initialization text file is executed on the simulation server to maintain the initialized state;

if the goal has not been achieved, the method includes adjusting the tasks of the test case; and

repeating the executing of the test case to simulate the behavior for the integrated circuit design.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the hardware description language is verilog.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

grouping the defined tasks as macrotasks.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method of identifying a test case includes,
verifying a syntax and a format of each of the tasks of the test case.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for minimizing compilation time of a test case during development testing of an integrated circuit, comprising:

identifying a test case, the test case associated with tasks written as .txt files, the tasks omitting an initialization sequence of a chip model;
generating a file associated with the test case;
determining a sequence of the tasks of the file;
identifying hardware description language (HDL) tasks associated with the tasks of the file according to the sequence; and
performing a simulation of the integrated circuit with the HDL tasks, the performing occurring on a simulation server maintained in an initialized state to immediately process and execute the compiled task and which publishes results to determine if a goal has been achieved, wherein a chip initialization text file is executed on the simulation server to maintain the initialized state.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the HDL tasks are pre-compiled.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the method of generating a file associated with the test case includes,

verifying the file associated with the test case as to a syntax and a format of each of the tasks associated with the test case.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein a script performs the verification of the file associated with the test case.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the method of identifying hardware description language (HDL) tasks associated with the tasks of the file according to the sequence includes,

accessing a translation layer to correlate the tasks of the file with the HDL tasks.

10. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the HDL tasks are stored in a library of HDL tasks on storage media in communication with a system performing the simulation.

11. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the HDL is verilog.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having program instructions for avoiding re-compilation of a test case during development testing of an integrated circuit, comprising:

program instructions for identifying a test case, the test case associated with tasks written as .txt files, the tasks omitting an initialization sequence of a chip model;

program instructions for generating a file associated with the test case;

program instructions for determining a sequence of the tasks of the file;

program instructions for identifying hardware description language (HDL) tasks associated with the tasks of the file according to the sequence; and

program instructions for performing a simulation of the integrated circuit with the HDL tasks, the performing occurring on a simulation server maintained in an initialized state to immediately execute the compiled task and which publishes results to determine if a goal has been achieved, wherein a chip initialization text file is executed on the simulation server to maintain the initialized state.

13. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the program instruction for generating a file associated with the test case includes,

program instructions for verifying the file associated with the test case as to a syntax and a format of each of the tasks associated with the test case.

14. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the program instructions for verifying the file associated with the test case as to a syntax and a format of each of the tasks associated with the test case include,

executing a script capable of reading the file associated with the test case.

15. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the program instructions for identifying hardware description language (HDL) tasks associated with the tasks of the file according to the sequence include,

program instructions for accessing a translation layer to correlate the tasks of the file with the HDL tasks.

16. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the HDL tasks are pre-compiled.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer system for validating an integrated circuit design, comprising:

a processor;

a memory;

a storage device; the storage device configured to store compiled tasks written in a hardware description language (HDL) for testing the functional characteristics of an integrated circuit design, each of the compiled tasks associated with a corresponding .txt file, the contents of which do not include an initialization sequence of a chip model, wherein the compiled tasks are configured to be executed on a server component maintained in an initialized state facilitating immediate execution of the compiled tasks and, wherein a chip initialization text file is executed on the server component to maintain the initialized state; and

a bus enabling communication between the processor, the memory and the storage device.

18. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the storage device is externally located from the system.

19. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the corresponding .txt file is verified as to syntax and format.

20. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the HDL is verilog.

Claims 21- 24 cancelled